

Questions and Answers Regarding the Teacher Residency Expansion Grants Request for Applications (RFA) November 18, 2022

1. Question: We are a charter school, does the administrator need to be a school site employee and listed on the CDE School Directory? Does the Fiscal Agent need to be an employee at the school site and listed on the CDE School Directory, too? Or can they be a CMO employee?

Answer: Proposition 98 funds cannot be disbursed to a CMO or be managed solely by a representative from a charter management organization (CMO). The Department of Finance requires that Proposition 98 funds be disbursed directly to the LEA (in this case charter school) with the CDS code. After the Commission disburses grant funds to the eligible LEA or consortium, the LEA may determine how the grant funds are managed.

2. Question from a previous Q&A quoted by the LEA seeking information:

Can residents be classified as employees and grant funds allocated to resident salaries?

Answer from the previous Q&A: This is a local decision. If a participant is both a resident and an LEA employee, they may be paid a stipend in their role as a resident and may be paid in their role as an employee. Authorizing legislation mandates that the resident works at least half time alongside a mentor teacher in the mentor teacher's classroom for at least one full school year while engaging in initial preparation coursework. Hiring residents as employees is allowable as long as requirements of authorizing legislation are met.

With this in mind, our questions are:

- Question: If residents are receiving grant funding for tuition and a small stipend, can
 they also be paid as instructional aids as the second "teacher" in the TK classroom?
 They would be there at least half time all year (full time in the second semester).
 Answer: Yes. This is an allowable local decision.
- Question: Grant funds could support a portion of the resident's salary (replacing the usual stipend) and districts would pay the difference. Does that seem reasonable?

Answer: Grant funds cannot be used to pay any portion of the instructional aid/district employee salary as that is not an available spending option included in Appendix G.

• Question: Are there any restrictions in how the job title is labeled? Answer: No.